

Milwaukee Fire Department



MABAS

Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

Elected Officials & Community Leaders





Agenda

- How was mutual aid provided prior to 2006?
- What was the impetus for MABAS?
- What are the benefits?
- What are the drawbacks to the system?
- Are suburban firefighters sufficiently trained for urban incidents?
- Appliance concerns.
- Communication concerns.





Services prior to 2006

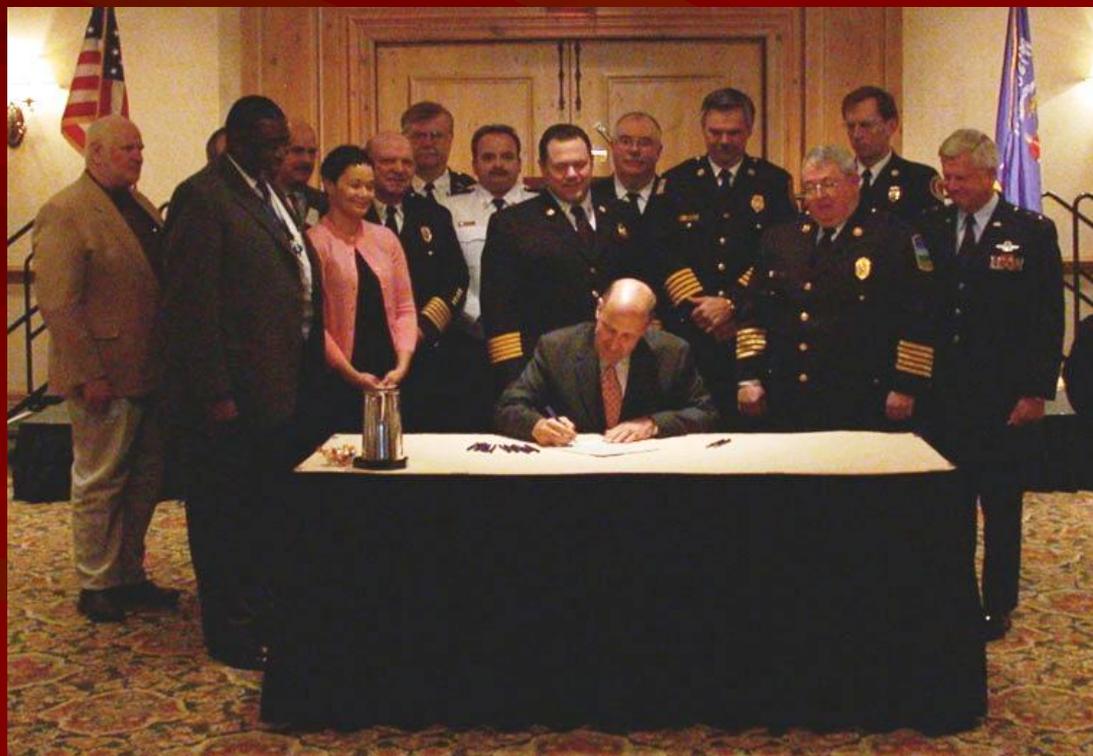
- City Charter 81-52.5 The fee for every unit of fire department equipment requested in excess of reciprocal fire services agreements entered into with other municipalities shall be \$5000 per hour 12/01/2009.





Impetus for MABAS

- 2000 A/G Doyle signs off on MABAS inter-state mutual aid language.





Impetus for MABAS



- After September 11, 2001, Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD 5) requires changes to the National Response Plan to include intra and interstate mutual aid plans.





Impetus for MABAS

- 2006 Governor Doyle signs MABAS legislation into law.
- Common Council adopted MABAS resolution 9/26/2006
- 10/5/2006 Mayor Tom Barrett signed MABAS contract with State of Wisconsin.





City of Milwaukee Common Council

- Resolution authorizes the MFD to participate in the Wis. Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). The State of Wisconsin has adopted the MABAS as the standard of emergency management response for fire, rescue and emergency medical services. Adoption of the resolution allows the Milwaukee Fire Department and City of Milwaukee to participate in an intergovernmental cooperation agreement for the purposes of public safety.





Impetus for MABAS



- September 5, 2007 Milwaukee Fire Department became Division 109.





What is MABAS?

- A fire service mutual aid system connecting fire, EMS, special operations and hazardous materials resources.
- Established by the fire service for the fire service – neighbor helping neighbor.
- Designed so that no community will be left unprotected.
- Reciprocal agreement – No cost for services.
- Voluntary membership – “Opt In” system.





What are the Benefits of MABAS?

- Voluntary membership.
- Liability is greatly reduced.
- Plans emergencies before the incident.
- Safety increased for citizens and firefighters.
- Activation without a disaster declaration.
- Control remains with the local fire chief.
- Legal interstate responses.
- Improves federal grant application eligibility
- No cost to the municipality for the response.





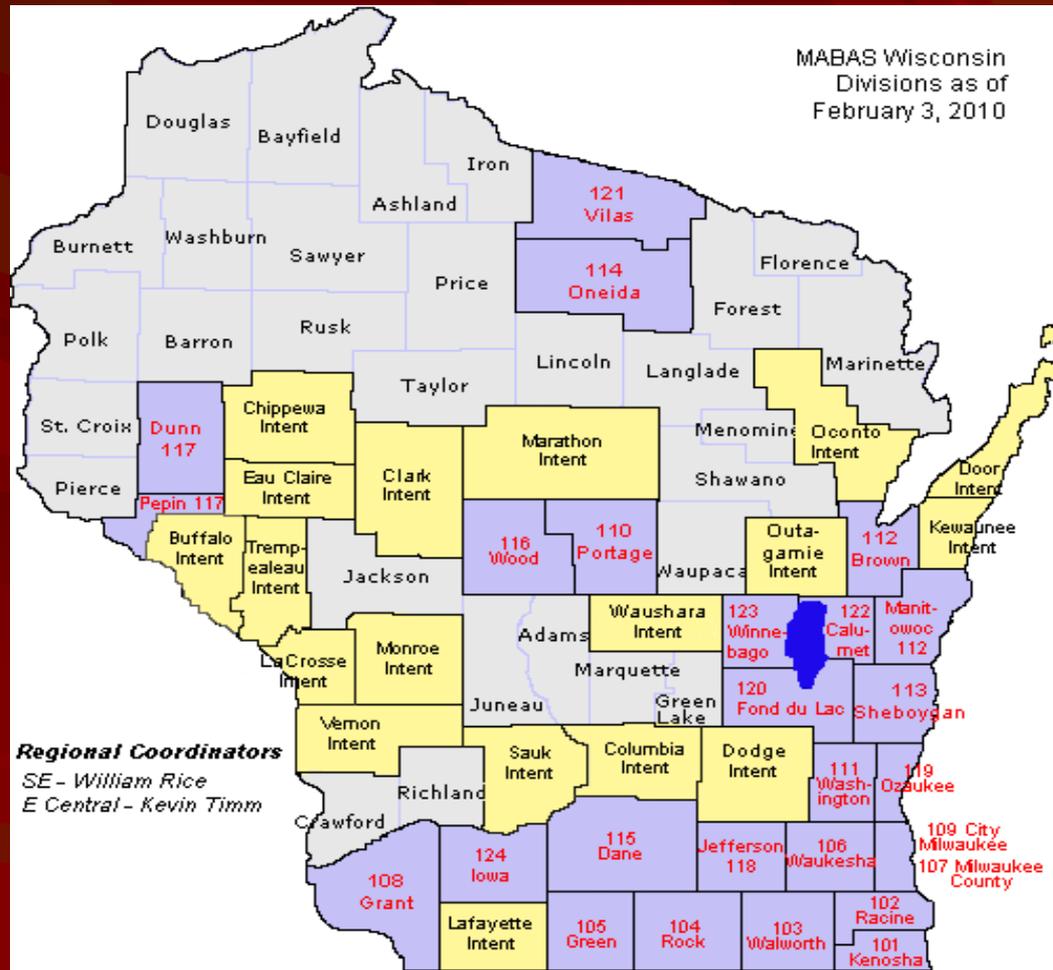
When is MABAS used?

- Major structure fires
- Tornadoes
- Wildland fires
- Wide-scale flooding
- Mass-casualty accidents
- Hazardous Materials incidents
- Terrorism attacks
- Civil Disturbances
- Infrastructure failures





Currently 25 counties organized, 17 pending



What are the drawbacks?



Milwaukee County Association

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of

Fire Chiefs

February 12, 2010

Michael Jones, Acting Fire Chief
Milwaukee Fire Department
711 West Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Dear Chief Jones,

On behalf of the Milwaukee County Associations of Fire Chiefs, I would like to compliment you for your decision to activate MABAS for the fire that occurred on January 19, 2010 at Oakland and North Avenues that today is known as the "Pizzaman" fire. We know now that this fire involved three businesses, covered a large area, and affected the lives of many people and the surrounding neighborhood. As you know, the primary purpose of MABAS is to coordinate the effective and efficient provisions of mutual aid during large incidents, emergencies, nature disasters or manmade catastrophes.

Your timely decision to activate MABAS afforded the surrounding communities the opportunity to provide the Milwaukee Fire Department the assistance necessary at the time to cover those outlying areas during your time of need. Now that we have had the opportunity to review the fire, I am pleased to see that MABAS performed the way it was designed, and I believe that we have now laid the foundation and broken the perceived barriers necessary to continue assisting one another through the MABAS system.

Respectfully,

Russ Spahn

Russ Spahn, President
Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs

Representing Fire Chiefs from:

- Cudahy – Hales Corners – Franklin – Greendale – Greenfield – Milwaukee –
- Milwaukee County Airport – North Shore – Oak Creek – South Milwaukee –
- St. Francis – Wauwatosa – West Allis – Wisconsin Air National Guard –





Interstate Resources Available to MABAS

- MABAS states
 - Illinois
 - Wisconsin
 - Indiana
 - Michigan
- Participating states
 - Minnesota
 - Iowa
 - Missouri
 - Ohio





Training suburban firefighters

	Full	Part	Paid	Arrival	MFD	Personnel	FF	EMT I	Driver	
City	Time	Time	on Call	Time	Station	Sent	Level II	Level	Paramedic	Cert.
Cudahy					7	4	4	4	0	4
Menomonee Falls					9	5	5	5	1	2
Greendale					11	4	4	4	1	4
South Milwaukee					14	4	4	4	2	4
Elm Grove					22	4	4	4	0	1
West Allis					29	4	4	4	1	1
Wauwatosa					35	4	4	4	1	4
Mequon					37	4	4	4	0	1
Germantown					38	5	5	5	1	5





Appliance concerns

- MFD standard threads



- Provide McGuard's hydrant wrench to MABAS stations

- Milwaukee County stroz coupling



- Provide accessory fitting





Communication Concerns

Milwaukee

- Console Issue
- Portable radios
- Reissue radio policy

Milwaukee County

- Interagency Fire Emergency Radio Network (IFERN) Concern
- Portable radios





Training

- 2007 department wide in-service
- 2007 meet and greet MFD Safety Academy
- 2010 After-action
- 2010 department wide in-service
- 2010 mock incident
- 2007 county wide training
- 2010 continual training
- 2010 mock incident





Community's Responsibilities

- MABAS is not an avenue to reduce staffing.
- MABAS is not intended to relieve a community of their responsibilities of providing adequate emergency services for all local emergencies.
- Agree to respond to another community's request, if available – a request can be declined if there is an emergency at home.
- Sign the MABAS contract and comply with the policies and procedures.





Information/Contact

- For more information, please visit:
www.mabaswisconsin.org

